GALLUP-McKINLEY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Ray Arsenault
SUPERINTENDENT

KIM BROWN

Asst. Supt. of Business Services

THERESA MARIANO

Asst. Supt. of Personnel Services



MAX PEREZ

Asst. Supt. of Learning Services

LEONARD HASKIE

Asst. Supt. of Support Services

"GROWING STUDENTS TO BE PRODUCTIVE CITIZENS IN A MULTI-CULTURAL SOCIETY"

MEMORANDUM

To: Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary

Federal Communications Commission

Office of the Secretary 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

From: Ray Arsenault

Date: July 11, 2011

Subject: Request for Review of a decision made by USAC - CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 02-6

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Decision being appealed: "Administrator's Decision on Appeal – Funding Year 2001-2002," dated May 10, 2011. Note: This letter is a supplement to our May 20, 2011, appeal of the same decision (see Attachment 1). We ask that this letter be joined with that earlier appeal.

Form 471 Number: 248147

FRN: 606006

Funding Year: 2001 (7/1/2001 – 6/30/2002)

Billed Entity Number: 143257

SPIN: 143005607

Service Provider Name: International Business Machines Corporation (IBM)

Applicant:

Gallup-McKinley County School District (GMCS)

640 S Boardman Ave

P.O. Box 1318

Gallup, NM 87305-1318

Applicant's Contact Person: George McDonald

Phone: (516) 801-7820 Fax: (516) 801-7830

E-Mail: gm.review@e-ratecentral.com

On May 20, 2011, Gallup-McKinley County Schools (GMCS) submitted an appeal to the FCC regarding the following USAC documents: "Administrator's Decision on Appeal – Funding Year 2001-2002," dated May 10, 2011; "Demand Payment Letter – Second Request" and "Notice of Withholding Action," both dated May 16, 2011. At the time, we promised to supplement that correspondence with a detailed appeal of the May 10th letter by the 60-day deadline of July 11th. This letter is that supplement.

We indicated in our May 20 letter that "There is no one at the District today who was involved in the actions and decisions with respect to this FRN before 2005. With the historical information in the May 10th Administrator's Decision on Appeal, we and IBM are in a better position to craft an appeal, but we will need time."

IBM has undertaken a thorough review of that Administrator's Decision on Appeal and found significant issue with it. Attachment 2 is a letter from IBM outlining the issue and suggesting that the reduction in the prediscount cost of the FRN should have been \$9,831, not the \$401,052.90 determined by USAC. Correction of the reduction amount will obviate the need for any recovery.

We commend the IBM letter for your review and ask that GMCS and IBM be provided an opportunity to address any questions that the FCC or USAC may have on review of this appeal.

On March 14, 2011, GMCS submitted an appeal to USAC with respect to this FRN (Attachment 3) raising a number of other issues. In the event that you do not see fit to grant our appeal, we ask that you review that March 14 appeal to USAC and grant a waiver of any recovery action in lieu of the length of time that has passed since the events at issue here, the change in staff at GMCS since then, USAC's own error in indicating on its Web site the prediscount and committed amount on this FRN that may have contributed to any overpayment if there was one, and the adverse impact on GMCS's students today if it is forced to pay back almost \$36 thousand in this period of very stringent school district budgets.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

(Isuaat)

Sincerely,

Ray Arsenault, Superintendent

Ray Arsenault SUPERINTENDENT

KIM BROWN Asst. Supt. of Business Services

THERESA MARIANO Asst. Supt. of Personnel Services



MAX PEREZ Asst. Supt. of Learning Services

LEONARD HASKIE Asst. Supt. of Support Services

"GROWING STUDENTS TO BE PRODUCTIVE CITIZENS IN A MULTI-CULTURAL SOCIETY"

MEMORANDUM

To: Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

From: Ray Arsenault, Superintendent

Gallup McKinley County Schools

Date: May 20, 2011

Subject: Request for Review of a decision made by USAC - CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 02-6

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Request for Review of a decision made by USAC - CC Docket Nos. 96-45 and 02-6

Decision being appealed: "Administrator's Decision on Appeal – Funding Year 2001-2002," dated May 10, 2011; "Demand Payment Letter – Second Request: and "Notice of Withholding Action," both dated May 16, 2011.

Form 471 Number: 248147

FRN: 606006

Funding Year: 2001 (7/1/2001 - 6/30/2002)

Billed Entity Number: 143257

SPIN: 143005607

Service Provider Name: International Business Machines Corporation (IBM)

Applicant: Gallup-McKinley County School District (GMCS)

640 S Boardman Ave

P.O. Box 1318

Gallup, NM 87305-1318

Applicant's Contact Person: George McDonald

Phone: (516) 801-7820 Fax: (516) 801-7830

E-Mail: gm.review@e-ratecentral.com

While the history of this FY 2001 FRN is long and convoluted, the actions that are relevant to this immediate request are summarized below.

On January 19, 2011, USAC issued an "Administrator's Decision on Appeal – Funding Year 2001-2002" that reduced the committed amount on this FRN to \$884,621.89, an action that would trigger a recovery of \$35,596.06. In a letter dated March 14, 2011 (and filed on March 15), GMCS appealed the January 19th Administrator's Decision. On March 14, 2011, USAC issued a Demand Payment Letter, demanding payment of \$35,596.06 from GMCS for FRN 606006.

FCC precedent is that recovery is on hold if there is a pending appeal. Our consultant, George McDonald, contacted Ms. Cyndi Beach of USAC on March 16, 2011, about the Demand Payment Letter. Ms. Beach responded by e-mail on March 31, 2011 (attached), indicating that GMCS does "not need to do anything, we now have this FRN on USAC Appeal Hold."

On May 10, 2011, USAC issued a new "Administrator's Decision on Appeal – Funding Year 2001-2002," denying the appeal we had filed with USAC on March 15, 2011. GMCS intended to appeal that new Administrator's Decision to the Commission by the 60-day deadline of July 11, 2011. Given the denial of the appeal, GMCS expected to receive a revised Demand Payment Letter restarting the repayment clock. Instead, in a letter dated May 16, 2011 (and delivered to E-Rate Central's offices on May 17th), USAC notified us we were on Red Light, threatening to dismiss three pending Forms 471 requesting a total of \$6.5 million if payment of the \$35,596.06 is not made by June 15, 2011. Apparently, our recovery was not on hold during the appeal as was reported by Ms. Beach. Instead the debt continued to age while our appeal was being worked and, once the appeal was resolved, we were quickly placed on Red Light.

As you know, the Red Light rule provides applicants 30 days to pay the debt or risk full denial of funding. However, FCC rules provide applicants 60 days to appeal a decision from USAC, so the issuance of the Red Light letter unfairly halved our time frame to appeal. This FRN dates back to Funding Year 2001 and has a long and complicated history. There is no one at the District today who was involved in the actions and decisions with respect to this FRN before 2005. With the historical information in the May 10th Administrator's Decision on Appeal, we and IBM are in a better position to craft an appeal, but we will need time. It is unfair for USAC to change FCC rules by not putting our recovery on hold during the appeal and effectively cutting our appeal time in half.

Therefore, we request that the FCC vacate USAC's May 16, 2011, Second Demand Payment Letter and Notification of Withholding Action. We also request the FCC consider this correspondence as an appeal of USAC's May 10, 2011, Administrator's Decision on Appeal. We will supplement this correspondence with a detailed appeal of the May 10th letter by the 60-day deadline of July 11th.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Raymond R. Arsenault Superintendent

Phone: 505-721-1051

Rapl a. Charle

THANK YOU

George McDonald

From: Cyndi Beach [cbeach@usac.org]
Sent: Thursday, March 31, 2011 4:16 PM

To: 'George McDonald'

Cc: 'Bart Stanley'; SL Andy Dick

Subject: RE: Gallup 2001 Demand Payment Letter

George,

The letters were ships passing in the night, you appealed the "partially approved appeal", while we issued the 1DPL based on the appeal decision. So you do not need to do anything, we now have this FRN on USAC Appeal Hold.

Regards,

Cyndi

From: George McDonald [mailto:gmcdonald@e-ratecentral.com]

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2011 2:29 PM

To: Cyndi Beach Cc: 'Bart Stanley'

Subject: RE: Gallup 2001 Demand Payment Letter

Cyndi,

I'm checking back in on this. I'm home after the filing window close and have made a better scan of the letter (see attached).

I'm hoping you can give me some guidance on this letter – do I need to act even though we've already appealed a letter for the same FRN and suggesting recovery of the amount, although for a different reason?

Thanks and hope you are well.

George

From: George McDonald [mailto:gmcdonald@e-ratecentral.com]

Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2011 7:49 PM

To: 'Cyndi Beach' Cc: 'Bart Stanley'

Subject: Gallup 2001 Demand Payment Letter

Cyndi,

We received the attached DPL today for an FY 2001 FRN for Gallup-McKinley County Schools. It refers to a COMAD letter that we never received. Could you send me a copy?

We did receive an Administrator's Decision on Appeal Letter that seemed to be a precursor to a similar recovery for the same FRN and we sent an appeal of that letter to SLD yesterday. I am attaching that letter and appeal.

I'm wondering if there is some mistake here – the COMAD issue is about the discount rates and the Decision Letter on Appeal is about a service substitution, but they each result in the same recovery amount – to the penny.

Thanks for your assistance.

George

5736367755 >> P 1/3

Attachment 2

IBM Global Services

TW

IBM E-rate Center 2330 Lakewood Road Jefferson City, MO 65109 twening@us.ibm.com 573-632-2206

July 8, 2010

Mr. Bart Stanley Director, Technology and Telecommunications Gallup-McKinley County Schools PO Box 1318 640 South Boardman Gallup, NM 87305

Dear Mr. Stanley,

The following information is provided to assist with your appeal of the Administrator's Decision for FRN 606006, FY2001 Video.

Issue: IBM believes USAC erred in its assessment of the eligibility of the Cisco Content Engine as reflected in the third bullet of the Explanation section of the May 10, 2011 Administrator's Decision on Appeal – Funding Year 2001-2002 for FRN 606006.

Rationale:

- 1. The Administrator's Decision on Appeal asserts that service provider documentation states that the Cisco Content Engine was being used as a "proxy cache" device, declares that an incligible use, and determines that the total cost associated with the Content Engines (including design and engineering, installation and maintenance, configuration and documentation and project management) as well as "charges for ineligible network management and development of operational checklists" were \$401,052.90, which amount was removed from the approved prediscount cost.
- 2. Cisco Content Engines have both a proxy functionality and a cache functionality, as well as serving as a conduit for provision of video services.
- 3. IBM agrees that the cache functionality is ineligible.
- 4. The proxy functionality and the provisioning of video services are both eligible functionalities.
- 5. For the period at issue, Cisco calculated cost allocations of their family of Content Engines of between 75% and 80% eligible, depending on the model of the Content Engine. USAC agreed with the cost allocation made by Cisco. This cost allocation was made based on the ineligible caching functionality of the equipment.
- 6. As this particular device is no longer publicly posted on the Cisco E-rate eligibility website, IBM will stipulate to the lower end of the range and agree to a cost allocation of 75% eligible.

5736367755 >> P 2/3

7. Three (3) Content Engines were installed at GMCS.

TW

- 8. Each Content Engine was priced at \$5,000 for a total of \$15,000.
- 9. USAC made its own cost allocation of the labor for the Content Engines, as well as what USAC determined to be ineligible network management and preparation of operational checklists tasks, at \$386,052.90. (This is \$401,052.90 less the \$15,000 for the cost of the Content Engines.) The significant issue here is that USAC made the cost allocation decision without consultation with either the applicant or the service provider. Labor costs for installation at the District NOC were \$526,264 for all equipment installed in the NOC. USAC therefore made a reduction of 73% of NOC-related labor costs for three devices and some presumed ineligible tasks. Clearly this is not a reasonable cost allocation on the part of USAC.
- 10. Based on consultations with IBM staff and subcontractor staff familiar with the products involved, IBM believes the Installation, Configuration, and Testing of each Content Engine required approximately 28 hours, or 84 hours total. Typically, Project Management, Administration, and Installation Design and Engineering would be approximately 40%. Therefore, IBM adds 12 hours per Content Engine, or 36 hours total, for Project Management.
- 11. Available records do not provide a precise hourly labor rate for FY 2001; however, based on the original cost estimates for the project, IBM estimates the hourly rate to be \$188 for installation and \$237 for Project Management, Administration, and Installation Design and Engineering. This places the associated labor costs for three Content Engines at \$15,792 for installation and \$8,532 for Project Management, or \$24,324 total labor.
- 12. Based on 75% eligibility of the Content Engines, \$18,243 of labor associated with the Content Engines would be eligible and \$6,081 would be ineligible.
- 13. IBM asserts that operational checklists are simply a routine means of managing project implementation, and turning it over to the customer for operation. As such it is an eligible task which IBM includes under Project Management.
- 14. Regarding the ineligible network management tasks, USAC did not provide a list of tasks it considers as ineligible network management or a rationale for ineligibility, nor did USAC offer either the applicant or the service provider an opportunity to offer an explanation as to why these tasks would be eligible. IBM reviewed the Statement of Work to assist in this appeal and did not find any ineligible network management tasks.
- 15. In summary, USAC is not qualified, nor does it have the knowledge, to make the cost allocation that it did for the ineligible portions of this FRN. USAC did not consult GMCS or IBM in making that allocation. IBM believes the proper figure for costs associated with the three Content Engines is as follows:

\$15,000 for equipment \$15,792 for labor \$8,532 for project management \$39,324 total

Of this total, 25% would be properly classified as ineligible, or \$9,831. IBM asserts that there are no ineligible network management tasks associated with this project

Based on the above analysis, the prediscount cost of the FRN should have been reduced by \$9,831, not \$401,052.90.

I hope this information materially assists your appeal. If you have any questions or need clarification, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Regards,

Tony Wenning

Sr. Managing Consultant

Cc: George McDonald, E-rate Central

RAYMOND ARSENAULT SUPERINTENDENT

KIM BROWN
Asst. Supt of Business Services

THERESA MARIANO
Asst. Supt of Personnel Services



MAX PEREZ
Asst. Supt of Learning Services

LEONARD HASKIE
Asst. Supt of Support Services

"GROWING STUDENTS TO BE PRODUCTIVE CITIZENS IN A MULTI-CULTURAL SOCIETY"

March 14, 2011

Letter of Appeal Schools and Libraries Division – Correspondence Unit 30 Lanidex Plaza West PO Box 685 Parsippany, New Jersey 07054-0685

SUBJECT: Administrator's Decision on Appeal - Funding Year 2001-2002

Funding Year: 2001

ADAL Date: January 19, 2011

Form 471#: 248147 FRN: 606006

Billed Entity Name: GALLUP-MCKINLEY CO SCHOOL DIST (GMCS)

BEN: 143257

Service Provider: International Business Machines Corporation

SPIN: 143005607

CONTACT PERSON: Geor

George McDonald Phone: 516-801-7820

E-mail: gm.review@e-ratecentral.com

We are appealing the Administrator's Decision on Appeal Letter dated January 19, 2011, informing us that SLD has "approved" our "appeal" and informing us that a Service Substitution reduced the pre-commitment amount on this FRN by \$96,697.80 to \$1,028,630.10. As a result, the committed amount is reduced now to \$884,621.89. We note that disbursements on this FRN total \$920,217.95, so our successful "appeal" will trigger a recovery of \$35,596.06. We note that we had earlier filed an appeal on this FRN that was Partially Approved, but we did not file an appeal relating to the issue in this Administrator's Decision on Appeal Letter.

This is a ten-year-old FRN. Equipment was installed during FY 2001 even though the FRN was originally denied. We attach the July 20, 2001, GMCS Purchase Order directing IBM to proceed with the equipment installation, and the September 27, 2001, IBM invoice for the equipment and installation, which would have been generated after the work was completed.

There have been changes in GMCS staff and in the district's outside E-rate consultant in the last few years and we have not been able to recreate exactly what happened with respect to this FRN. The following is our best sense of those events.

SLD originally denied the FRN and GMCS' appeal of that denial to the FCC was successful. Funding was finally awarded in June 2005 in a pre-commitment amount of \$1,136,072.10. We do not know how SLD justified the reduction from the original request of \$1,537,125.00. We believe a service substitution request was submitted in December 2005. The service sub only addressed a portion of the total project and did result in a reduction of the costs associated with that portion of the project, but we do not believe it resulted in a commensurate reduction in the total project costs. The service sub approval letter indicated a reduction in the pre-commitment and commitment amount, but SLD did not amend the data in its database. We attach a copy of the DRT report for this FRN downloaded from the SLD Web site on February 2, 2011 – after the date of the Administrator's Decision on Appeal Letter – showing a pre-commitment amount of \$1,136,072.10. GMCS submitted a BEAR for this FRN in early 2006 and SLD sent a BEAR Notification Letter dated March 2, 2006, for the amount of \$920,217.95. GMCS and IBM believe that the BEAR submitted reflected the true eligible amount for this FRN. We attach a letter from IBM indicating it support of that view.

Now, five years later, SLD proposes to adjust the commitment on this FRN and, presumably, will seek to recover the difference. Repayment, of course, would have a significant impact on GMCS. We believe GMCS acted in good faith to be reimbursed for the discount portion of the eligible costs for this FRN. If the SLD had adjusted its database when the service sub was approved, it would not have disbursed the amount it did, and GMCS would have been paid less at the time. But, in the meantime, GMCS used the funds it was reimbursed and, in these difficult budget times, does not have an extra \$35.6 thousand to reimburse USAC for its error.

We ask that you review the eligible costs for this FRN and withdraw the Administrator's Decision on Appeal Letter.

If you have any questions about this appeal, please contact George McDonald at the phone number above.

Sincerely, Casaall R. Casaall

Raymond R. Arsenault

Superintendent

Phone: 505-721-1051

cc: Tony Wening, International Business Machines Corpora

SENT BY: CENTRAL OFFICE

rax:505-775-5121 Jul 26 2001 14:05; 7-20-1; 3:01FM; GALLUT MCKINLER SALLT

Business Services **Gallup-McKinley County School** P.O. Box 1318

Gallup, NM 87305-1318 (505) 722-7711

¥ / O #: 220143

atter. LYNNE NICHOLSON

IBM 2155 Louisana Blvd., NE Suite 10500 Albuquerque, NM 87110

SHIP TO:

GALLUT-MCKINLEY COUNTY SCHOOLS 700 SOUTH BOARDMAN (87301)

P.O. BOX 1318 GALLUP, NM 87305-1318

ATTM: RECEIVING WAREHOUSE

ATE: 7/20/01

SHIP: P O P OUTUR

772070	SHIP; F.O.:	B. GALLUP,	REQ:	35-0022
QTY	DESCRIPTION	UNIT PRICE		TOTAL
1.	VIDEO SOLUTION AND INSTALLATION SERVICES TO INCLUDE: 100 CISCO-CONTROL SERVER/CISCO IP/TV 3411 200 CISCO-BROADCAST SERVER/CISCO 3423 400 CISCO-ARCHIVE SERVER/CISCO 3481 300 CISCO-VIDEO CONTENT MANAGER/CISCO IP/T 200 MULTIPOINT CONF BRIDGE/POWER PLAY PWP- 1400 MULTIPOINT CONF BRIDGE/POWER PLAY PWP- 100 MULTIPOINT CONF BRIDGE/POWER PLAY PWF- 101 (BROADBAND NETWORK INC.) VIA IBM WITH PURCHASING AGREEMENT ON VESTERN STATES CONTRACTING ALLIANCE (WSCA) CONTRACT WITH TESTATE OF NEW MEXICO.	V CM-3.0 GW-NTSC 2074-FPS NS	EED	1,523,100 \$#\$######
	ACCOUNT 92100.11.6411.41.000.220			
Indersigned, cer to be purchase	tify that I have the authority to purchase, or I, the described materials and/or services	NSTRUCTIONS TO	VEN	DOR

that they are necessary and proper, and that this purchase ms to the New Mexico Procurement Act in the manner ad as evidenced by records on file in my possession.

algneturo)

Ship to above address only (except periodicale via U.S. Mail)

All freight charges must be prepaid.

Submit invoices in duplicate. Purchase order number must appear on all invoices, cartons and correspondence.

VENDOR COPY

International Business Machines Corporation

Please direct inquiries and correspondence to IBM CORPORATION P O Box 2150 Atlanta GA 30301 800-426-0569

3602033-07

Invoice Number Invoice date 91C3978 09/27/2001

1 of 1

Gallup McKinley County School District Business Office 700 S Boardman Gallup, NM 87301-4707

Gallup McKinley County Business Office PO Box 1318 Gallup, NM 87305-1318

Customer reference T-TDC-CFTXLKH-643447 Please remit payments to P O Box 105063 - 1t8

PAYMENT DUE UPON RECEIPT OF Terms INVOICE - LATE PAYMENT FEE MAY APPLY

HOURS

INVOICE FOR SERVICES

CONTRACT NUMBER CFTXLKH CYHAK BILLING NUMBER

Atlanta GA 30348

DESCRIPTION

HOURLY

RATE

TAX

AMOUNT

820,667.00

39,853.00

39,853.00

39,853.00

39,853.00

39,853.00

39,853.00

39,853.00

39,853.00

39,853.00

70,736.00

35,107.00

33,878.82

Video Solution & Installation Services, Performed at the following locations:

SERVICE

DATE

Gallup McKinley NOC

Crownpoint High School

Nav Pine High School

Tohatchi Middle School

39,853.00 Tohatchi HS 39,853.00

Thoreau Middle School Thoreau HS Gallup Central High School

Gallup JR HS Gallup HS

Gallup Middle School

Kennedy Middle School Ramah High School

35,107.00 David Skeet Elem School 1,400,000.00 TOTAL

TAXES 1,433,878.82 GRAND TOTAL

RIGHTS TO PAYMENT WITH RESPECT TO THIS INVOICE MAY HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED TO IBM RECEIVABLES MASTER TRUST I. PAY _OUR INVOICES BY AUTOMATIC BANK TRANSFER. YOU MAY EVEN QUALIFY FOR A DISCOUNT! DETAILS AT WWW.IBM.COM/SUPPORT/OPERATIONS. FOR A COPY OF SERVICES CONTRACT CALL 1-877-426-6006 OPT 5.

Original Invoice

Ramah Elem School

PLEASE PAY THIS AMOUNT

\$1,433,878.32

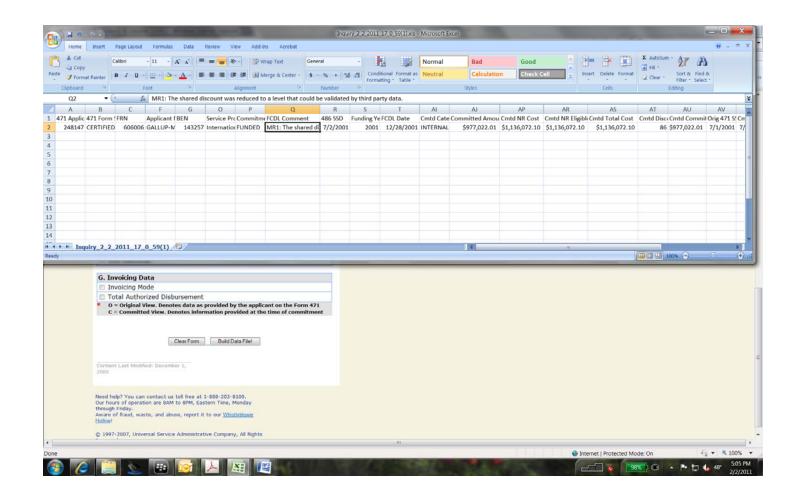
Invoice to Gallup McKinley County Business Office	Invoice Number 91C3978	Invoice date 09/27/2001	Page 1	≪
PO Box 1318 Gallup, NM 87305-1318	Customer Number 3602033-07	Accounts Re Department 1T8		
Add. Jorrection Invoice to Installed at I	Please remit payments to IBM CORPORATION P O Box 105063 - 1t8 Atlanta GA 30348	8		plea port with
	Phone 800-426-0569 www	Rem w.ibm.com/suppo	nittance Copy ort/operations	**

International Business Machines Corporation
Invoice to Invoice Number
Gallup McKinley County 91C3978



assure per credit se detach this ion and return remittance.





IBM E-rate Center
2330 Lakewood Road
Jefferson City, MO 65109

March 14, 2011

Gallup-McKinley County Schools 640 South Boardman Avenue Gallup, NM 87305

RE: SLD Appeal for Form 471 #248147, FRN #606006

Dear Mr. Arsenault,

I am writing to support your appeal of the SLD decision concerning the above FRN. When GMCS filed the FCC Form 472 (BEAR) in 2005, IBM reviewed the form to ensure eligibility and invoiced amounts were correct as part of out standard review process.

At that time, there were no ineligible items of equipment or services noted. If ineligible items had been noted, IBM would have brought them to the attention of GMCS for correction of the FCC Form 472.

I hope this letter aids your appeal. Good Luck.

Tony Wening

Sr. Managing Consultant

E-rate Program